Amendments to the Claims:

1 (currently amended): A method for linking binary dependency relationships, comprising:

obtaining dependency relationships relating to binaries;

storing the dependency relationships within a binary dependency database; and

providing dependency information relating to the binaries that links dependencies that may span across the binaries and functions.

2 (currently amended): The method of Claim 1, further comprising, classifying each of the dependency relationships into a dependency types.

3 (currently amended): The method of Claim 2, wherein classifying each of the dependency relationships into the dependency types further comprises ~~selecting at least one dependency type from~~ classifying the dependency type as a dynamic type when the dependency relationship is established at a runtime, and classifying the dependency type as a static type when the dependency relationship is established from inspecting the binaries ~~a static type and a dynamic type~~.

4 (original): The method of Claim 2, further comprising determining a strength of a bond relating to the binaries.

5 (original): The method of Claim 4, further comprising determining at least first order dependencies.

6 (currently amended): The method of Claim 5, further comprising determining a likelihood of whether each of the dependency relationships is required.

7 (currently amended): The method of Claim 4, further comprising performing analysis regarding a footprint associated with ~~specific~~ at least some of the binaries.

8 (original): The method of Claim 4, further comprising determining binary dependency clusters within the binaries.

9 (currently amended): The method of Claim 1, further comprising using a vector to represent dependency information for one of the binaries; wherein the dependency information relates to the dependency relationships for the one of the binaries.

10 (original): The method of Claim 9, further comprising creating a dependency matrix comprising at least two of the vectors.

11 (original): The method of Claim 10, wherein the dependency matrix is an n^{th} order dependency matrix.

12 (currently amended): The method of Claim 10, further comprising obtaining a full dependency matrix and identifying binary circular dependency clusters; wherein obtaining the full dependency matrix comprises calculating a next order dependency matrix until the next order dependency matrix is the same a previous order dependency matrix.

13 (original): The method of Claim 1, wherein obtaining the dependency relationships relating to the binaries further comprises determining static and dynamic dependencies.

14 (original): A system for linking binary dependency relationships, comprising:

a software system containing binaries;

a binary dependency database that is configured to store static and dynamic dependency relationships relating to the binaries; and

a processing tool for processing the dependency relationships.

15 (original): The system of Claim 14, further comprising, classifying the dependency relationships into dependency types.

16 (original): The system of Claim 15, wherein the binary database further comprises a strength of a bond between the binaries.

17 (original): The system of Claim 16, wherein the processing tool further comprises performing an analysis regarding a footprint associated with the binaries.

18 (original): The system of Claim 16, wherein the processing tool further comprises using at least one matrix to represent dependency information for the binaries.

19 (original): The system of Claim 18, further comprising calculating a full dependency matrix to identify binary circular dependency clusters.

20 (currently amended): A computer-readable medium having computer executable instructions encoded thereon ~~relating to binary dependency relationships~~, comprising:

obtaining static and dynamic dependency relationships relating to binaries;

storing the relationships within a binary dependency database such that the relationships span across binaries; and

providing a processing tool for processing the dependency relationships.

21 (original): The computer-readable medium of Claim 20, further comprising, classifying the dependency relationships into dependency types.

22 (original): The computer-readable medium of Claim 21, further comprising determining a strength of a bond between the binaries.

23 (original): The computer-readable medium of Claim 22, further comprising performing analysis regarding a footprint associated with specific binaries selected from the binaries.

24 (original): The computer-readable medium of Claim 22, further comprising determining binary dependency clusters within the binaries.

25 (original): The computer-readable medium of Claim 22, further comprising creating a dependency matrix.

26 (original): The computer-readable medium of Claim 25, further comprising obtaining a full dependency matrix and identifying binary circular dependency clusters.